

BLACK PROFILES

A Selected Reading
List For
Young Adults

Annotated List - keep in Desk

THEY MADE HISTORY

A BLACK EXPLORER AT THE NORTH POLE

Matthew A. Henson

The only non-Eskimo to accompany Admiral Peary on man's first exploration of the North Pole, Matthew Henson recalls the perils and hardships of this history-making voyage.

BLACK HEROES IN OUR NATION'S HISTORY

Phillip T. Drotning

They crossed the Rio Grande with Cortés and fought at Bunker Hill; they chased Geronimo and repelled the Nazi attack in the Battle of the Bulge.

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

Shirley Graham

Teacher and founder of Tuskegee Institute, he believed in educating "the hand, head, and heart."

CAPTAIN OF THE PLANTER, THE STORY OF ROBERT SMALLS

Dorothy Sterling

An ex-slave becomes a naval hero, then Congressman from South Carolina.

FOUR TOOK FREEDOM. THE LIVES OF HARRIET TUBMAN, FREDERICK DOUGLASS, ROBERT SMALLS, AND BLANCHE K. BRUCE

Philip Sterling

Four courageous Negroes, born into slavery, dared to break the bonds of servitude and make new lives for themselves.

GREAT RULERS OF THE AFRICAN PAST

Lavinia G. Dobler

Five great African leaders with foresight and courage saved their countries in time of danger. DT18 . D6

HARRIET TUBMAN, CONDUCTOR ON THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

Ann Petry

A fugitive slave herself, this courageous woman returned again and again to help others reach freedom.

6670
1908
.H4A28

E185
.D718

E185
.97
.W226

E185
.97
.S658

E185
.96
.S75

E185
.96
.S75

E449
D744

LIFE AND TIMES OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS

Frederick Douglass

"Why am I a slave? Why are some people slaves and others masters? These were perplexing questions. . . I was already, in spirit and in purpose, a fugitive from slavery."

E185
.96
.377

LIFT EVERY VOICE; THE LIVES OF BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, W.E.B. DuBOIS, MARY CHURCH TERRELL, AND JAMES WELDON JOHNSON

Dorothy Sterling

These three men and one woman helped guide our nation in the troubled days following Reconstruction.

UB433
.L4
1969

NEGRO MEDAL OF HONOR MEN

Irvin H. Lee

From 1770 when Crispus Attucks was killed during the Boston Massacre to the present fighting in Vietnam, Negroes have served valiantly in the armed forces of our country.

E185
.96
.106

PIONEERS AND PATRIOTS: THE LIVES OF SIX NEGROES OF THE REVOLUTIONARY ERA

Lavinia G. Dobler

A mathematician, a sea captain, a poetess, and an explorer are among the men and women who helped shape our nation's history in its earliest days.

E449
D758

THERE WAS ONCE A SLAVE: THE HEROIC STORY OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS

Shirley Graham

As companion to young Tommy Auld, Frederick learned to read and write. Thereafter he never lost the hope that someday he might be free.

E441
.L4

TO BE A SLAVE

Julius Lester, comp.

What did it feel like "to live as a piece of property that could be sold?"

E185
.97
.W3164

UP FROM SLAVERY

Booker T. Washington

Born into slavery, Booker T. Washington had a vision of freedom for his people based on a sound foundation of education and economic security.

QB36
.B2267

YOUR MOST HUMBLE SERVANT

Shirley Graham

A free man pursued as a runaway slave, a scientist contributing to the advancement to astronomy, Benjamin Banneker helped survey and plan our nation's capital.

THEY FOUGHT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

E185
.97
.LSA3

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MALCOLM X

Malcolm Little

In thirty-nine years Malcolm Little from Lansing, Michigan, became "Detroit Red" of Roxbury and Harlem, and - after an extraordinary prison term - "Malcolm X," an American Muslim.

E185
.96
.M48

BLACK PROFILES

George R. Metcalf

From Harriet Tubman, who helped hundreds of slaves to freedom via the underground railroad, to freedom fighter James Meredith, these men and women struggled to end racial injustice.

E185
.97
.N65A3

COMING OF AGE IN MISSISSIPPI

Anne Moody

Living in two-room shacks in rural Mississippi and forced into menial jobs for little pay, Anne Moody learned at an early age the degradation of being a Negro.

E185
.96
.S79

I HAVE A DREAM

Emma G. Sterne

A determined lady refuses to move to the back of the bus, three young men volunteer for the first Freedom Ride, a young seaman breaks down the barrier of color in the Merchant Marine.

E185
.97
.T82

JOURNEY TOWARD FREEDOM; THE STORY OF SOJOURNER TRUTH

Jacqueline Bernard

A century ago she was waging today's fight for civil rights.

E185
.97
.K5P7

MARTIN LUTHER KING: FIGHTER FOR FREEDOM

Edward Preston

Growing up in segregated Atlanta, Martin Luther King determined that when he grew up he would try to better the condition of his people.

E185
.97
.K5M5
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.: HIS LIFE, MARTYRDOM AND MEANING FOR THE WORLD

William R. Miller

For his visionary leadership of the non-violent movement for Negro civil rights, King won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

*THE MARTYRS

Jack Mendelsohn

Four little girls, killed in Sunday School, and Medgar Evers, NAACP organizer for Mississippi, are among the sixteen people, both black and white, who died for racial justice.

E185
.97
.K5K5
MY LIFE WITH MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Coretta S. King

The wife of the great civil rights leader tells how her husband's unwavering belief in non-violence and his love for his people sustained them through his short but turbulent career.

E185
.96
.B4
PIONEERS IN PROTEST

Lerone Bennett

They stood up against the British, led slave rebellions, worked on the Underground Railroad, and spoke publicly for the equality of black people in America.

*SAMMY YOUNGE, JR.: THE FIRST BLACK COLLEGE STUDENT TO DIE IN THE BLACK LIBERATION MOVEMENT

James Forman

The complacent black community of Tuskegee changed overnight with the murder of twenty-one-year-old Sammy Young and the acquittal of his confessed killer.

E185
.97
.K5B4
WHAT MANNER OF MAN: A BIOGRAPHY OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Lerone Bennett

"It was King's achievement to give men hope - that and the second indispensable element of a revolt, a new idea."

*Available in the adults collection only.

THEY PUT SOUL INTO WORDS AND MUSIC

PS3545
.P81525
BLACK BOY, A RECORD OF CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH

Richard Wright

This eminent author grew up in poverty, fear, and hatred, but his individualism could not be broken by the degradation of being a black child in white society.

PS3566
.A73C5
A CHOICE OF WEAPONS

Gordon Parks

A young Negro overcomes poverty and prejudice to become one of today's most successful photographers.

GV1785
.D82B5
DANCE: THE STORY OF KATHERINE DUNHAM

Ruth Biemiller

She danced her way from the Chicago ghetto to the top of the theater world as choreographer and teacher.

PN2286
.R6
FAMOUS NEGRO ENTERTAINERS OF STAGE, SCREEN, AND TV

Charlemae H. Rollins •

From the rich Negro musical heritage with its roots in old plantation songs have come such diverse modern stars as Leontyne Price, Lena Horne, and Harry Belafonte.

FAMOUS NEGRO MUSIC MAKERS

Langston Hughes •

Among these well-known melody-makers are Leadbelly of folk song fame and Bill Robinson with his percussion feet.

PS3515
.U27427
LANGSTON HUGHES

Milton Meltzer

In poems and plays, in stories and songs, in humor and history, Langston Hughes wrote about the plight of his people in an America where "white is right."

ML419
.A75P5
LOUIS ARMSTRONG

Kenneth G. Richards

Satchmo's golden trumpet, played with great virtuosity and intense emotionalism, helped make jazz an international language.

MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING

Marian Anderson

A singing ambassadress to the world, Marian Anderson reaches into lives everywhere with her rich contralto voice.

NIGGER

Dick Gregory

He could make people laugh about the plight of Negroes. But before he could become an American citizen, first class, Dick Gregory had to march in Mississippi and go to jail in Chicago.

*RICHARD WRIGHT

Constance Webb

"The times are only now catching up with this prophetic writer" who, a generation ago, predicted the Negro's inevitable struggle for equality.

SIDNEY POITIER: THE LONG JOURNEY

Carolyn H. Ewers

Homeless and hungry in New York City, this young man from Cat Island and Miami answered the "Actors Wanted" ad in the *Amsterdam News*.

THAT DUNBAR BOY: THE STORY OF AMERICA'S FAMOUS NEGRO POET

Jean R. Gould

He put the yearnings and spirit of his people into verse before his early death from tuberculosis.

TRUMPETER'S TALE, THE STORY OF YOUNG LOUIS ARMSTRONG

Jeannette Eaton

The musical career of the world's great jazz trumpeter began at thirteen when he made his debut as a tambourine player in the Colored Waif's Home Brass Band.

YES I CAN

Sammy Davis

"The day will come when they'll look at me and see a man — and then somewhere along the way they'll notice he's a Negro."

THEY PURSUED THEIR DREAMS

AFRICAN FIREBRAND: KENYATTA OF KENYA

Jules Archer

A tribal boy, educated in Europe, returns to fight for the freedom and unity of his people.

THE DARK CHILD

Camara Laye

In the making of a trinket or the harvesting of rice, a son of the Malinke expresses the dignity and traditions of his West African childhood.

DOCTOR DAN, A PIONEER IN AMERICAN SURGERY

Helen Buckler

A successful heart surgeon, Dr. Williams organized a hospital to train Negro doctors and nurses.

ELY; AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Ely Green

At the age of nine Ely thought Sewanee, Tennessee, was the most exciting place in the world; at seventeen he had to leave town to escape lynching.

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER; AN AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY

Rackham Holt

He triumphed over prejudice, poverty, and poor health to become a benefactor of all mankind.

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER: THE MAN WHO OVERCAME

Lawrence Elliott

"...every day that he lived he labored toward some tangible end that would make this earth a little richer, or healthier, or lovelier, for all men — black, white, yellow and red."

GI DIARY

David Parks

On the battlefields of Vietnam Gordon Parks' son learned to overcome not only the brutalities of war but also the bitterness of prejudice.

E185
.96
.A4
GREAT NEGROES, PAST AND PRESENT

Russell L. Adams

As businessmen and teachers, as soldiers and artists, as lawmakers and scientists, Negroes, well-known and unknown, have brought distinction to themselves and to their people.

E185
.96
.D283
GROWING UP BLACK

Jay David, ed.

What is it like to be a black child in white America?

CT2750
.K3A3
I WILL TRY

Legson Kayira

Armed with an ax, some flour, a Bible, and a copy of *Pilgrim's Progress*, this young man walked across his native Africa on the first part of his trip to college in America.

DT18
.K3
LEADERS OF THE NEW AFRICA

Edna M. Kaula

As the cry for *uhuru* — freedom — reverberated throughout Africa, courageous young men appeared to lead their people out of the bonds of colonialism and into the twentieth century.

*MANY SHADES OF BLACK

Stanton L. Wormley

Men who have achieved success despite a constant struggle against prejudice and discrimination explain why "black comes in many shades."

E185
.97
.B3446
MARY McLEOD BETHUNE

Rackham Holt

A founder of Bethune-Cookman College and a spokesman for her people, Mrs. Bethune devoted her life to helping Negro young people.

R154
.D7545
PIONEER IN BLOOD PLASMA; DR. CHARLES R. DREW

Robert Lichello

Great athlete, brilliant surgeon, dedicated scientist and teacher, Charles Drew devoted his life to the twin goals of blood research and training Negro doctors.

RALPH J. BUNCHE, FIGHTER FOR PEACE

J. Alvin Kugelmass

This world-renowned statesman won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950.

THIS IS MY COUNTRY TOO

John A. Williams

"I set out in search of an old dream, one that faded, came back into focus, and faded again. The search was for my America."

THEY PLAYED THE GAME

GV865
.A25A3
"AARON, R.F."

Hank Aaron

"The story of my life, the good times and the bad, from Mobile to Milwaukee to Atlanta."

GV994
.A7R6
ARTHUR ASHE, TENNIS CHAMPION

Louie Robinson

Baseball was his favorite sport until tennis pro Ronald Charity showed him how to hold a racket and stroke a tennis ball.

GV1132
.C5504
1167
BLACK IS BEST; THE RIDDLE OF CASSIUS CLAY

Jack Olsen

Which is the real Cassius Clay — the dedicated athlete or the enigmatic convert to the Black Muslim faith?

GV865
.G5A3
FROM GHETTO TO GLORY; THE STORY OF BOB GIBSON

Bob Gibson

He was poor, fatherless, and black, but Bob Gibson played basketball and baseball better than anyone else in the neighborhood.

GV885
.P82
GO UP FOR GLORY

William F. Russell

One of the sport's all-time greats talks about being a Negro, an American, and a professional basketball star.

GV994
.G5A3
I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE SOMEBODY

Althea Gibson

A champion tells how tennis made a somebody out of a tomboy and school dropout from Harlem.

GV865
.C3
.A3

IT'S GOOD TO BE ALIVE

Roy Campanella

A tragic automobile accident made this famous baseball player a quadriplegic but adversity could not daunt his spirit.

GV884
.P8A3

ME, CAZZIE RUSSELL

Cazzie L. Russell

A star player in high school, college, and pro basketball tells how he reached the top.

GV1132
.C556
1968

MUHAMMAD ALI, WHO ONCE WAS CASSIUS CLAY

John Cottrell

This brash but brilliant boxer fought his way from Louisville's Negro ghetto to Olympic and world boxing championships.

GV865
M38A32

MY LIFE IN AND OUT OF BASEBALL

Willie Mays

A long-time star of the Giants, Willie Mays has hit over 500 homers, won the Most Valuable Player award twice, and was named captain of his team.

GV865
.P59A3

MY LIFE IS BASEBALL

Frank Robinson

He is the only man to win the Most Valuable Player award in both leagues.

GV939
B75A6

OFF MY CHEST

James N. Brown

In seven years of pro football he rewrote the NFL record book.

GV1132
.P3A3

VICTORY OVER MYSELF

Floyd Patterson

Encouraged by teachers, doctors, and social workers at the Wiltwyck School where he had been sent for truancy, Floyd Patterson became the youngest boxer to win the heavyweight championship.

WAIT TILL NEXT YEAR; THE LIFE STORY OF JACKIE ROBINSON

Carl T. Rowan

"Future generations will remember him, not as the base runner who worried pitchers to their doom, but as the proud crusader against pompous bigots . . . as the symbol of a new Negro American."

Selected by Rose Moorachian, Readers Advisor for Young Adults,
Boston Public Library



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